



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

November 24, 2003

H.R. 3478 **National Archives and Records Administration** **Efficiency Act of 2003**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Government Reform
on November 20, 2003*

H.R. 3478 would make various administrative changes to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). The legislation would allow NARA to extend the length of time agencies can hold particular federal records. The bill also would authorize NARA to purchase uniforms for employees, retain and spend fees for the public use of NARA facilities, and to enter into cooperative agreements with public and nonprofit organizations to further NARA programs. CBO estimates that the legislation would not have a significant effect on spending subject to appropriation or on direct spending.

H.R. 3478 would authorize NARA to retain and spend any fees collected from the public for the use of its facilities for meetings and conferences. Because NARA does not have such authority under current law, enacting this provision would increase direct spending. According to the agency, however, the use of NARA facilities produces less than \$500,000 a year in governmental receipts (revenues) that are deposited in the general fund of the Treasury. Thus, CBO estimates that authorizing NARA to retain and spend those receipts would not have a significant effect on direct spending. H.R. 3478 could increase the cost to store federal records because it would allow NARA to extend the length of time agencies may archive records. Based on information from NARA, CBO does not expect the costs of this provision, which would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds, to be significant.

H.R. 3478 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Matthew Pickford. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.